CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device, comprising:

a CPU;

a location module coupled to said CPU; and

a communication unit coupled to said CPU;

wherein said CPU receives a location value from said location module, determines a region of the world in which the electronic device is located based on said location value and configures a communication capability for the electronic device based on the determined region.

2. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said location module comprises a GPS receiver.

3. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein when said CPU configures the communication capability, said CPU configures the communication unit to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of communication protocols.

4. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein when said CPU configures the communication capability, said CPU configures the communication unit to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of transmission carrier frequencies.

5. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said CPU, said memory storing location information, said location information including location data and communication configuration values pertaining to said location data.

6. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said CPU, said memory storing a look-up table having a plurality of entries, each entry pertains to a different region and each entry includes location information and communication configuration values pertaining to said location data.

7. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises a plurality of longitude values.

8. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises a plurality of latitude values.

9. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises a plurality of longitude and latitude values.

10. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify a communication protocol.

11. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify a transmission carrier frequency.

12. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify a communication protocol and a transmission carrier frequency.

13. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said region is a country.

14. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said location value received from said location module comprises longitude and latitude values.

15. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said CPU receives said location value from said location module when power is enabled to said electronic device.

16. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said CPU and containing code which can be accessed and executed by said CPU, said code includes instructions permitting said CPU to configure the communication capability based on the determined region in which the electronic device is located.

17. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a wireless communication device.

18. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a PDA.

19. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a laptop computer.

20. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a microphone and speaker coupled to said CPU and wherein said electronic device comprises a cellular telephone.

21. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a modem and said communication capability comprises the modem's frequency.

22. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a modem and said communication capability comprises the modem's communication protocol.

23. An automatic method of configuring the communication capability of an electronic device, comprising:

(a) receiving a location value pertaining to the location of the electronic device; and

(b) configuring a communication capability for the electronic device based on the received location value.

24. The method of claim 23 further including determining a region of the world in which the electronic device is located based on said location value and (c) includes configuring the communication capability for the electronic device based on the determined region.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein said region comprises a country.

26. The method of claim 23 wherein (a) includes receiving a location value from a GPS receiver.

27. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes configuring the electronic device to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of communication protocols.

28. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes configuring the electronic device to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of transmission carrier frequencies.

29. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes comparing said location value to a look-up table of location and configuration data to determine in which region of the world the electronic device is located and which communication capability works in that region.

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality of longitude values.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality of latitude values.

32. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality of longitude and latitude values.

33. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises transmission carrier frequencies.

34. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises communication protocols.

35. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises transmission carrier frequencies and communication protocols.

36. The method of claim 23 wherein (a) is performed upon powering up the electronic device.

37. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a wireless communication device.

38. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a PDA.

39. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a laptop computer.

40. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a digital telephone.

41. The method of claim 23 wherein said communication capability includes a modem's frequency.

42. The method of claim 23 wherein said communication capability includes a modem's communication protocol.

43. An electronic device, comprising:

a CPU;

a display having an adjustable raster rate coupled to said display; and

a location module coupled to said CPU;

wherein said CPU automatically configures the raster rate of said display based on a location value received from said location module.